

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

TO THE MANITOWOC COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1 WHEREAS, one third of people over the age of 65 fall every year, resulting in doctor visits,
2 emergency room visits, hospital admissions, loss of functional independence, injury, and death, with
3 the death rate due to unintentional falls in Wisconsin being twice the national average; and
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5 WHEREAS, fall-related emergency room visits and hospitalizations result in nearly \$2.25
6 million in medical charges in Manitowoc County every year, 90% of which is paid by Medicare; and
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8 WHEREAS, multiple factors, such as chronic health problems, lack of strength in lower
9 extremities, reduced vision, the use of four or more medications, and unsafe home conditions,
10 increase the risk of falls; and
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12 WHEREAS, injuries from falls are a preventable community public health problem for which
13 a variety of preventive practices have been proven effective, Wisconsin is a leader in falls prevention
14 research, and Manitowoc County's Aging and Disability Resource Center and Public Health
15 Networks are leaders in providing evidence-based community fall prevention programs to older
16 citizens across the state; and
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18 WHEREAS, community-based programs, in combination with public health and health care
19 preventive practices, reduce the likelihood of falls and provide support to older persons in
20 maintaining health and staying safe in their communities; and
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22 WHEREAS, a reduction in the incidences of disability and death due to falls is a priority of
23 *Healthiest Manitowoc County 2010*;
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25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Manitowoc County Board of Supervisors
26 recognizes the month of September as Fall Prevention Awareness Month and further recognizes
27 September 21, 2008 as Fall Prevention Awareness Day in Manitowoc County.

Dated this 16th day of September.

Respectfully submitted by the
Natural Resources & Education Committee

Catherine E. Wagner, Chair

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

FISCAL NOTE: Reviewed and approved by Comptroller. _____

LEGAL NOTE: Reviewed and approved as to form by Corporation Counsel. _____

APPROVED:

Bob Ziegelbauer, County Executive

Date